The scenario is all the more fantastic considering Crow opened the season with a different car and a different owner.

Crow bought the No. 93 Sportsman car from Canyon Country's Steve Burdett, who was driving Sportsman car No. 38 (owned by Richard Johnson), last season. He later sold it to Jim and Dixie Thorne, but still drove it in the car's initial race of the season, July 7.

Despite a fifth-place finish, Burdett quit Johnson's team and hooked up with the Thornes, who reunited him with car No. 93, a car built by Steve's father 12 years earlier. Johnson then hired Crow to drive No. 38.

"His dad built that car and there's a lot of sentimental value in that car," Johnson said. "He's never been the same since he sold that car last year, I sincerely believe that. To me, Steve needed to be in his old car. He was always trying to set this one up like the old one.

"It just didn't work out. I mean we're still friends. It was just that as an owner and a driver we didn't click."

Burdett added, "I just felt too much pressure. We had this brand new, top-of-the-line car, and I felt like everybody was watching everything I did."

See MOTOR, page 17